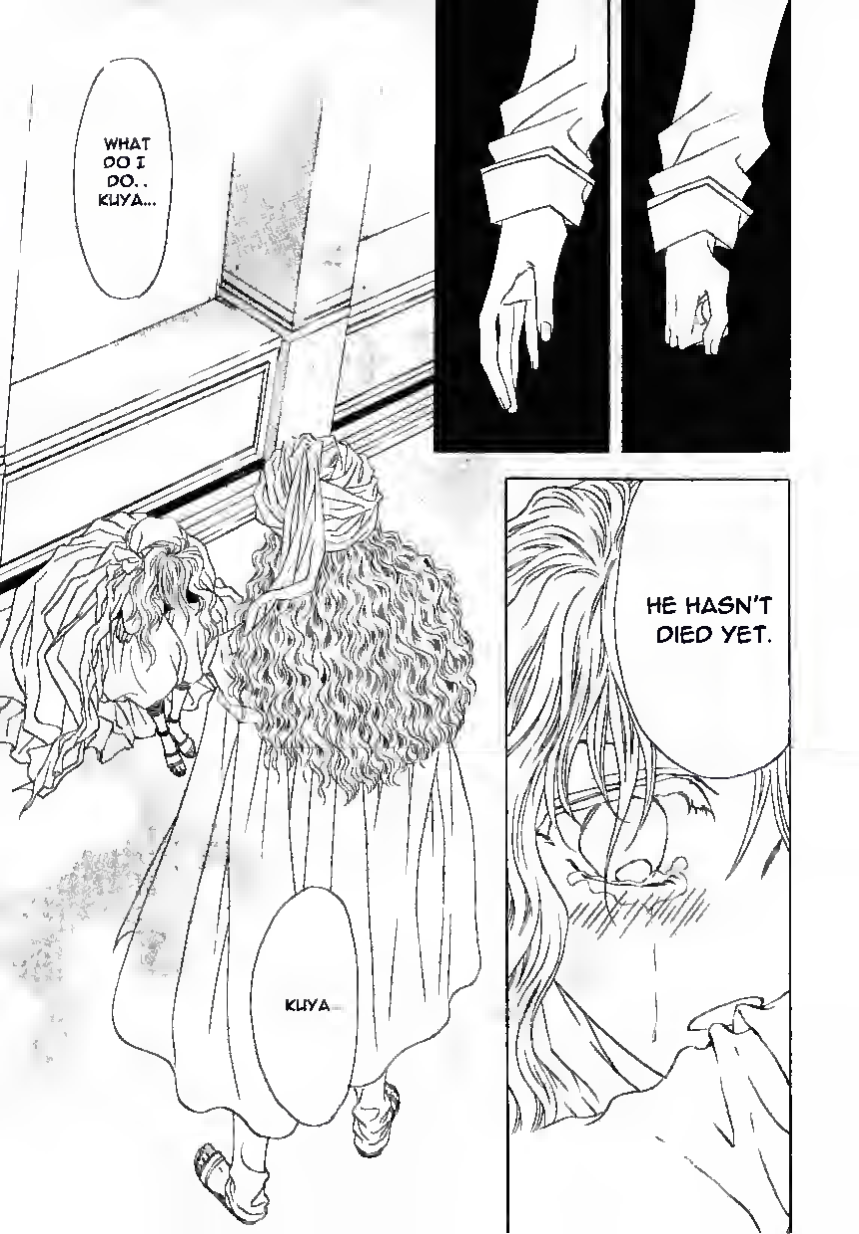
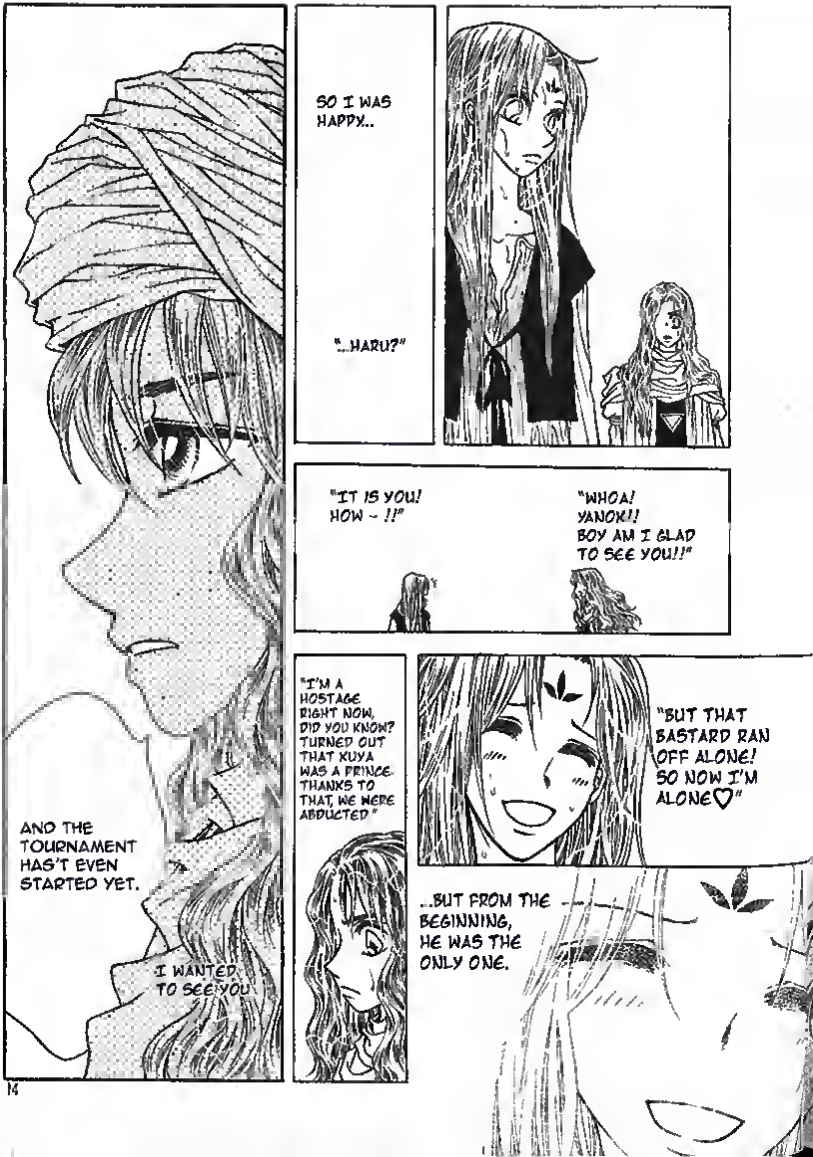
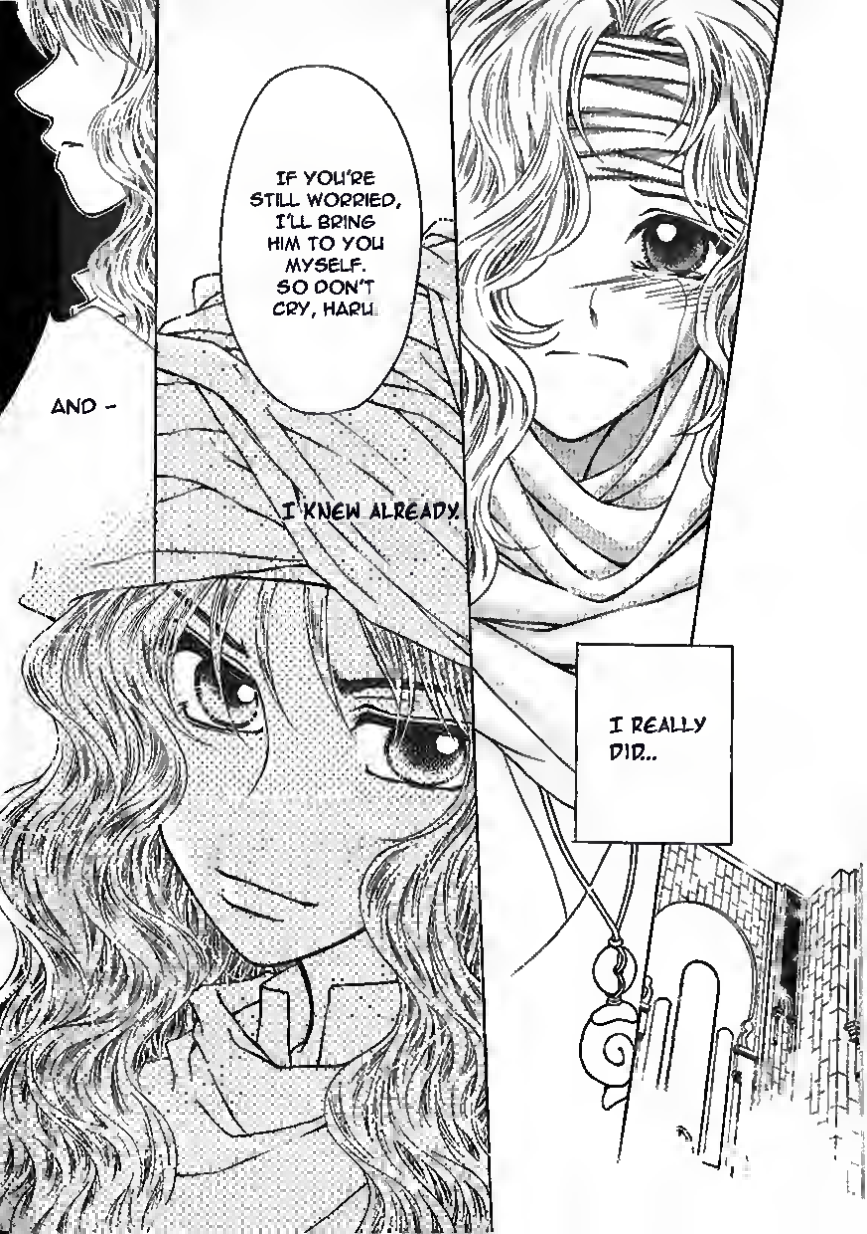
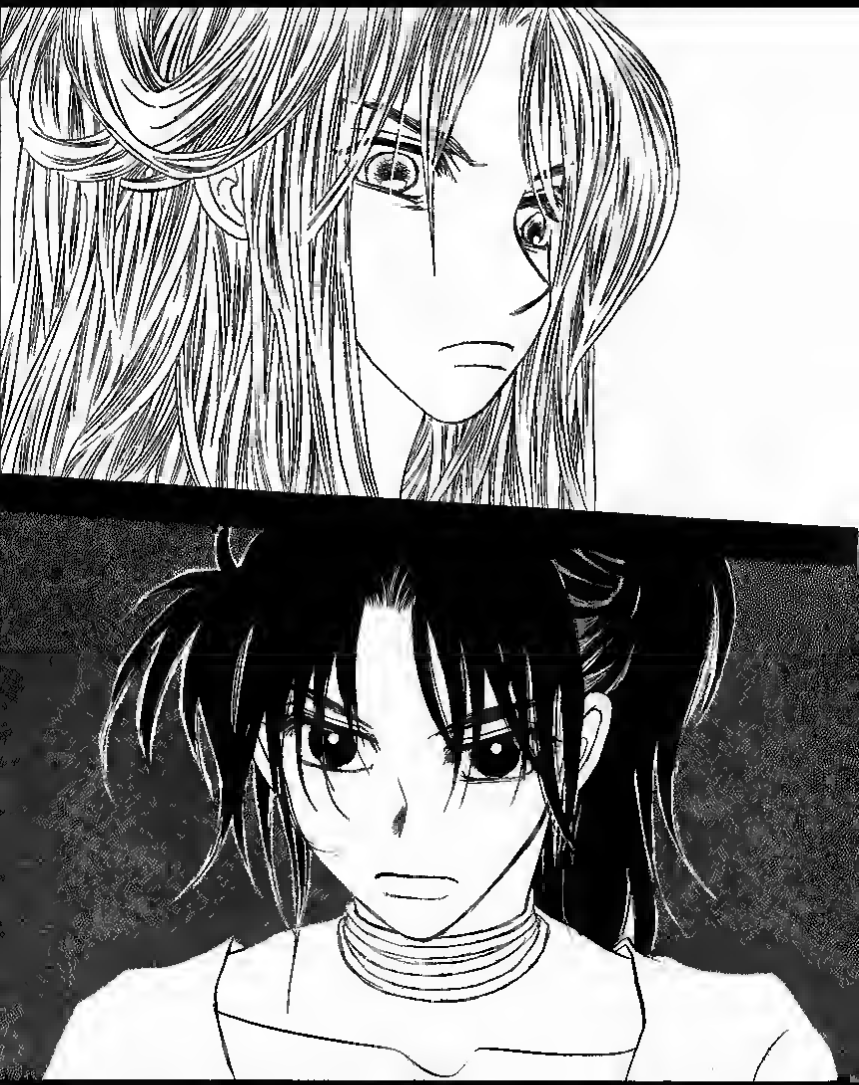

WHAT DO I DO.. KUYA...
KUYA...
HE HASN'T DIED YET.

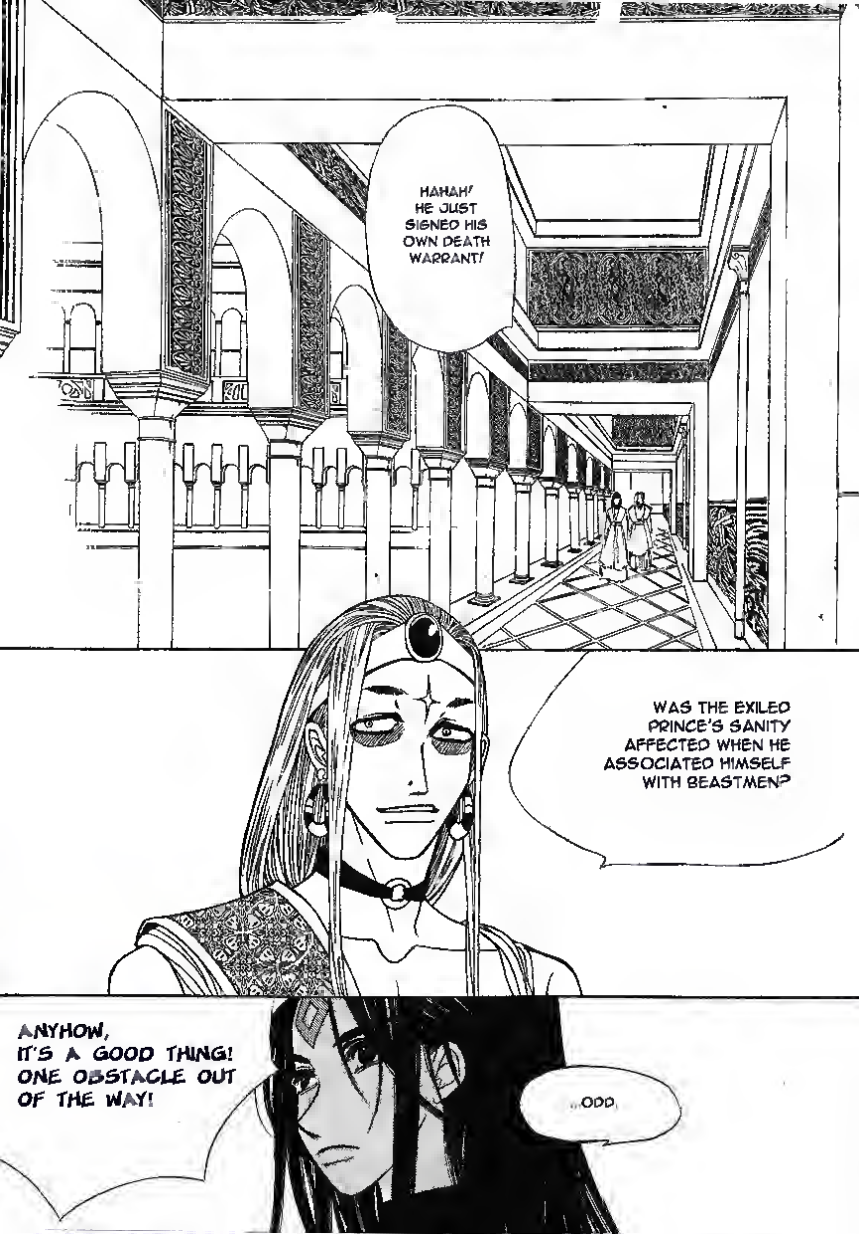
YOU KNOW HE'S STRONG,
HE'LL BE ALRIGHT HE EVEN SURVIVED THAT BRUTAL SAWAKA


SO I WAS HAPPY...
"..HARU?"
"IT IS YOU! HOW ~ !!"
"WHOA! YANOK!! BOY AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU!!"
"I'M A HOSTAGE RIGHT NOW, DID YOU KNOW? TURNED OUT THAT KUYA WAS A PRINCE. THANKS TO THAT, WE WERE ABDUCTED"
"BUT THAT BASTARD RAN OFF ALONE! SO NOW I'M ALONE♡"
AND THE TOURNAMENT HAS'T EVEN STARTED YET.
I WANTED TO SEE YOU
..BUT FROM THE BEGINNING, HE WAS THE ONLY ONE.


IF YOU'RE STILL WORRIED, I'LL BRING HIM TO YOU MYSELF. SO DON'T CRY, HARU.
AND -
I KNEW ALREADY.
I REALLY DID..



HA
HA
HA
HA...
KUK...!
VERY WELL, TAMAUR. IF YOU TRULY WISH SO, SO BE IT! TO WITNESS THE DEATH OF MY YOUNGER BROTHER ON MY BIRTHDAY, WHAT A UNIQUE GIFT. SERVANT! CLOTHE TAMAUR IN THE FINEST CLOTHES AND ARM HIM WITH THE FINEST WEAPONS!
SURVIVE FOR AS LONG AS POSSIBLE, YOUNGER BROTHER
THAT WAY THIS OLDER BROTHER OF YOURS WILL ENJOY IT LONGER


HAHAH! HE JUST SIGNED HIS OWN DEATH WARRANT!
WAS THE EXILED PRINCE'S SANITY AFFECTED WHEN HE ASSOCIATED HIMSELF WITH BEASTMEN?
ANYHOW, IT'S A GOOD THING! ONE OBSTACLE OUT OF THE WAY!
...ODD

PARDON?
IT IS UNCHARACTERISTIC OF HYUNG-NIM TO KILL TAMAUR SO EASILY. WHAT IS HE UP TO?
HAHAH! YOU WORRY TOO MUCH, MYULGEN-NIM. THIS WASN'T THE WORK OF THE CHA-KUN, BUT THE EXILED PRINCE HIMSELF, WAS IT NOT?
DO NOT UNDERESTIMATE HYUNG-NIM
THE CHA-KUN PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW THAT THE EXILED PRINCE COULD POSSIBLY BE THAT STUPID.

HYUNG-NIM IS NOT OF OUR FATHER'S BLOODLINE THE QUEEN WAS ALREADY PREGNANT FROM HER PREVIOUS HUSBAND WHEN SHE MARRIED THE KING SO HE WAS BORN A 'FATHERLESS CHILD' SO HE HAD VERY LITTLE POWER AND HAD AN EVEN SMALLER CHANCE OF SUCCEEDING THE THRONE YET WHEN OUR FATHER PASSED AWAY, IT WAS HE WHO BECAME CHA-KUN!
THE PROSPERITY OF PAIRU BROUGHT DURING HIS REIGN IS PROOF OF HIS ABILITIES AND CHARISMA, IF IT WEREN'T FOR HIS INHERENT POOR HEALTH MY TURN FOR SUCCESSION WOULD NEVER HAVE COME.

DO NOT BE FOOLED, BERU. WITHIN THAT FRAIL FLESH IS THE MIND OF A SLY SNAKE. IF WE LOWER OUR GUARD, WE WILL BE KILLED.
BUT THAT WON'T LAST FOR LONG.
BERU! PREPARE FOR A HUNT!
UNDER-STOOD!

I SUDDENLY CRAVE BLOODSHED.

SHOULDN'T WE HEAD BACK AFTER ALL? THIS VALLEY IS FULL OF DEMONS AND I CAN'T EVEN TRANSFORM BECAUSE OF MY INJURY.
MISS MIRU- MISS MIRU-
LET'S GO AFTER WE'VE GATHERED MORE PEOPLE, PLEASE? FATHER WILL WORRY.
THEN GO BACK ALONE.
YOU MUST BE MISTAKEN BECAUSE OF HARU, BUT I DON'T TRUST YOU PEOPLE. IF I DON'T SNEAK OUT LIKE THIS, WHO KNOWS HOW LONG I'LL BE KEPT CAPTIVE?
clop clop
clop clop

EVEN NOW, HARU IS GETTING CLOSER TO KUYA-NIM STEP BY STEP, BUT I'M STUCK IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE?
WHY SHOULD I!?
YOU'RE THE SAME!! YOU ONLY FOLLOWED ME BECAUSE YOU'RE AFRAID THAT I'LL RUN! IF YOU WANT TO GO BACK, THEN GO THE HELL BACK ALONE!!
.....
B... BUT THANKS FOR GUIDING ME. AND GIVING ME FOOD AND THE YAK.

WHY AREN'T YOU LEAVING? DIDN'T YOU SAY THIS PLACE WAS DANGEROUS?
OH! Y, YES! I'LL LEAVE, I'LL LEAVE~
Ahh!

DEMONS?
DEMONS HAVE APPEARED!!

DEMON?!
Great...
OH NO!!
IF WE DON'T GET RID OF THEM QUICKLY...

WAIT!
THOSE ARE KRUGERS THEY ONLY EATS ROCKS.
AS LONG AS WE LEAVE THEM ALONE, THEY WON'T ATTACK US
BUT KRUGERS GATHER AT PLACES UNINHABITED BY PEOPLE
WHY'RE THEY IN A PATH USED BY PEOPLE?
BOOOO
A HORN FLUTE?
IT CAN'T BE..!
BOOOOOO
...Miss Miru This way...
RUN!! NOW!!

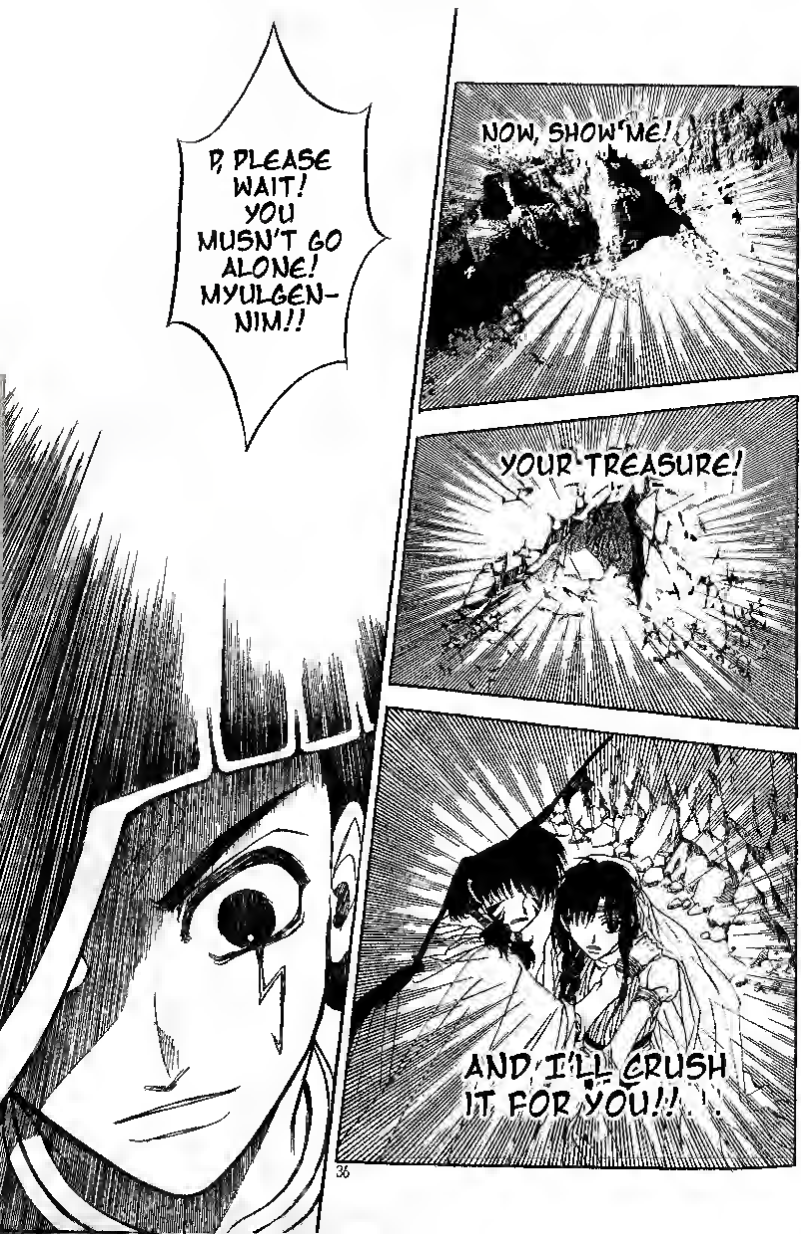
Stove
Shoosh
BOOM
Cra-crack

꺄아앵
꺄아앵
꺄아앵
꺄아앵...

IT'S THEM!!
PAIRU'S DEMON HUNTERS!
COLDHEARTED MURDERERS WHO SLAY ANYTHING THAT CATCH THEIR EYE, DEMONS OR BEASTMEN, ALIKE!!

GAHAHAHAHA!!
IT'S OUR FIRST HUNT IN A LONG TIME!! KILL ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING!! HUNT! HUNT! HUNT! IT'S A HUNT!!

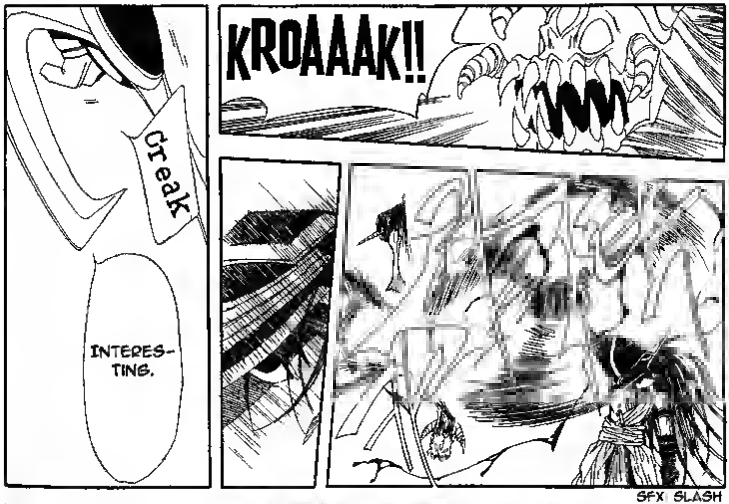
...ODD.
EH? THAT CAN'T BE. IT WOULDN'T MAKE A NEST NEAR A PATH MADE BY PEOPLE...
EH?
LET'S GO.
THE KRUGER IS NOT FLEEING.
AS IF IT'S PROTECTING SOMETHING.
MYULGEN-NIM?!


P, PLEASE WAIT! YOU MUSN'T GO ALONE! MYULGEN-NIM!!
NOW, SHOW ME!
YOUR TREASURE!
AND I'LL CRUSH IT FOR YOU!!

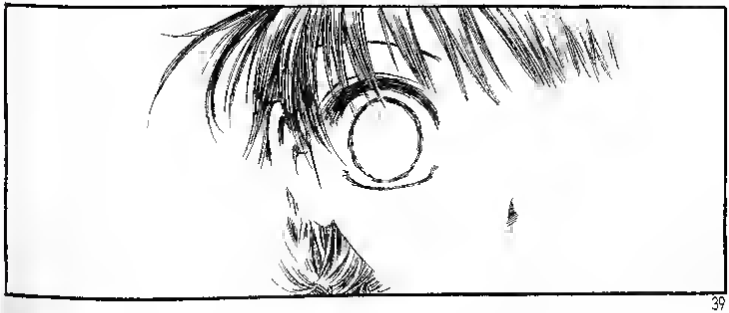
PRINCE...
MYUL-GEN?

MYULGEN -NIM! IT'S DANGERO OUS!!
...YOU'RE ONE OF TAMARU'S...? BUT WHY...

GROAR
A DEMON PROTECTING A HUMAN?


creak
INTERES-TING.
KROAAAK!!

SFX: SLASH



STOP...
RUN... SAVE...
STOP IT...
SA...VE... SAVE US...
STOP...!!

save...
save us...
run...away...
save...
run...
STOP IT!!!!
save...run...
save...run...
save...run...
save...

JUST STOP IT!! PLEASE!!
M, MIRU?
I FEEL LIKE MY HEAD'S GOING TO BURST! PLEASE, STOP..!
PLEASE DON'T, PRINCE... DON'T KILL THEM... THIS NOISE...
I'LL DO WHATEVER YOU TELL ME TO, JUST PLEASE MAKE IT STOP!!

THIS WOMAN...
MEN! END THE HUNT! WE RETURN TO THE PALACE!!
REALLY, THIS IS AN UNEXPECTED DISCOVERY.

MEANWHILE - IN PARIS
EH? I CAN'T PARTI-CIPATE? WHY NOT?
I'M A THIRD-DAN BLACK BELT IN TAIKWANDO, I'VE DONE GYMNASTICS, AND I EVEN KNOW ARCHERY! SO WHY ARE YOU SAYING I CAN'T PARTICIPATE IN THE TOURNAMENT!!?
What are gymnastics and taikwando...
LIKE I SAID, YOU'LL OVEREXTEND YOURSELF.
.....
FIRST OF ALL, CAN YOU DO THINGS LIKE THAT?

GRAAAH!!
URAAH!!
WOOW!
OOH! PASS!!
SEE.
Urk...

B, BUT THERE ARE TESTS OTHER THAN THAT!
OH... LIKE THAT?
step
jump
Where normal people landed
ANOTHER PASS!!
YOU SEE? MONSTERS LIKE THAT ARE A DIME A DOZEN HERE

B, BUT BASHA-UNN IS PARTICIPATING TOO! WHY CAN'T I...
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WILL THIS BE FINE?
THAT WOMAN IS THE MOST MONSTROUS OF THEM ALL
Lightly Easily
Should it be bigger?
IF YOU CAN DO THAT MUCH, I WON'T STOP YOU
BUT...
EVEN YOU'RE PARTICIPATING!! WHY!?
'CUZ I'M STRONG.
Was the first to pass.
WHAT! YOU'RE SAYING YOU'RE STRONGER THAN ME WITH ARMS SKINNIER THAN MINE!? DON'T LIE TO ME!
...LOOK, SHIN HARU...
IT'S TRUE.
THE BLUE MOON CLAN DOES NOT ALLOW ONE OF THEIR OWN TO LEAVE THE CLAN UNLESS THEY HAVE ATTAINED A CERTAIN LEVEL OF STRENGTH
THEY MUST AT LEAST BE ABLE TO SURVIVE IN THE DESERT

AND SINCE YANOK IS FROM TEMPLE -
GOT IT? IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE, THEN GIVE UP ON THE TOURNAMENT
NO.
JUST YOU WAIT! I'LL GET INTO THE TOURNAMENT ON MY OWN!! I WILL!!
STEP
STEP
YOU'LL GET TO SEE KUYA IN THE TOURNAMENT ANYWAYS LEAVE IT TO US
...
...
DON'T SAY UNNECESSARY THINGS TO HARU.
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU IF YOU BABBLE ABOUT THOSE THINGS WITHOUT MY CONSENT.

...ARE YOU UNCOMFORTABLE WITH MY PRESENCE?
...I WON'T DENY IT
BUT I'M HAPPY YOU RESEMBLE YOUR MOTHER
....
THAT'S EXACTLY WHY I DON'T LIKE IT.
HM... HE'S QUITE THE FEROCIOUS ONE, ISN'T HE NOT LIKE HIS APPEARANCE RUDE TO HIS ELDERS
..DON'T MAKE THOUGHTLESS JUDGEMENTS, MUSHUK
IT'S NOT YOUR PLACE TO INTRUDE

CHE, YOU'RE JUST DEFENDING HIM BECAUSE HE'S A FELLOW CLANSMAN.
BUT ISN'T THIS TOURNAMENT STRANGE?
EVALUATING FITNESS, HORSEBACK RIDING, ARCHERY, AND EVEN POLEARM SKILLS I'VE NEVER SEEN A SELECTION PROCESS LIKE THIS BEFORE.
DOESN'T IT ALMOST SEEM AS IF THEY'RE BUILDING AN ARMY? MAYBE THAT RUMOR IS TRUE...
RUMOR?
A RUMOR THAT BASHA PICKED UP FROM A TRADER.
THAT PAIRU IS ON THE VERGE OF WAR.

WHAT-?!! A WAR?!!
IT'S NOT FOR CERTAIN.
BUT WAN-WIRA! IS GATHERING MERCENARIES AT A RAPID RATE. ACCORDING TO BASHA, A LARGE AMOUNT OF THEM HAVE ALREADY BEEN WON OVER. AND I ALSO HAVE MY OWN SUSPICIONS.
_hmph
RECENTLY, THE TRADERS I RAIDED HEADING FOR PAIRU WERE CARRYING MUCH MORE HORNS AND BULL SINEW THAN USUAL. OKAY, WATER BUFFALO HORNS ARE ALL GOOD, BUT BULL SINEW? THAT'S ONLY USED FOR MAKING WEAPONS. AND THEN THIS TOURNAMENT SHOWS UP. SOMETHING'S UP

huff
huff
NO FAIR!
NO FAIR, NO FAIR!!
LEAVING ME OUT!
YOU THINK FIGHTING WELL IS ALL THAT MATTERS? WELL I'M GOING TO SEE KUYA TOO!!
stride
stride

GRR – WHAT CAN I DO?
I WON'T EVEN BE ABLE
TO SEE HIM PROPERLY
ON THE DAY OF—
AND IF SOMETHING BAD
HAPPENS DURING THE
FIGHT, THEN WHAT!?
I HAVE TO SEE HIM BEFORE
THE MELEE NO MATTER WHAT!

BUT AS YANOX
SAYS, THERE'S NO
WAY I'LL QUALIFY...

MAYBE I SHOULD
TRY SCALING
THE WALL...

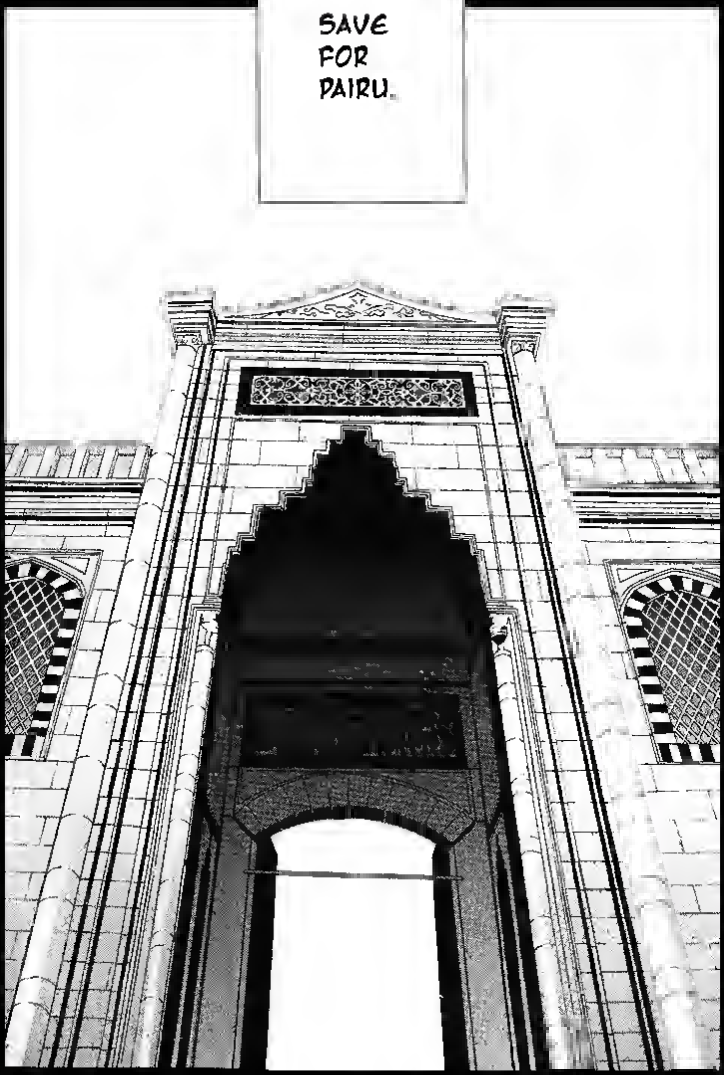
!

B, BUT HASN'T WIRAI
ALWAYS BEEN AT WAR
WITH *SOME* COUNTRY
OR ANOTHER?
SO IT DOESN'T
NECESSARILY MEAN
THAT IT'S PAIRU...

AND WHAT IF THAT
WAR WAS NEARLY
FINISHED?

THE ONLY REASON WIRAI
WASN'T CONCERNED WITH
THE SOUTH WAS DUE TO
THE NORTHERN SAVAGES
BUT IF THE HEAD OF OSORU,
THE STRONGEST AND MOST
REBELLIOUS TRIBE,
HAS SUBJUGATED HIMSELF
TO THE WIRAI-KUN...

NOW NO ONE IS
ANY MATCH FOR
THE WAN-WIRAI.


SAVE
FOR
PAIRU.

WRTRANSLATIONS T: CRAZEEAPPLE

E: ""